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ARCHIE'S
PAL

JUGHEAD

COMICS

EAT
AT
POP'S



BURGER
DELUXE

UNDAE



JUGHEAD
JONES
SEMI-PRIVATE
EYE

IN
SHADOW
OF THE
POD MAN,
MAN

DIRECT EDITION



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J. JONES,
SEMI-PRIVATE EYE:

SONG OF THE POD MAN!

"LET'S SEE... A
'MAD MAN'
ON THE 'MIC'..."

MAN!

...PLUS A WILD TEEN
MUSIC SCENE...

TEEN
CLUB

DO NOT CROSS

...AND A BURGLARY GANG
KNOWN AS THE
SHADOW THIEVES!

YEP...

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...THAT'S HOW I
GOT IN THIS MESS!

THAT,
AND...

WATCHING
THOSE OLD
DETECTIVE
MOVIES...

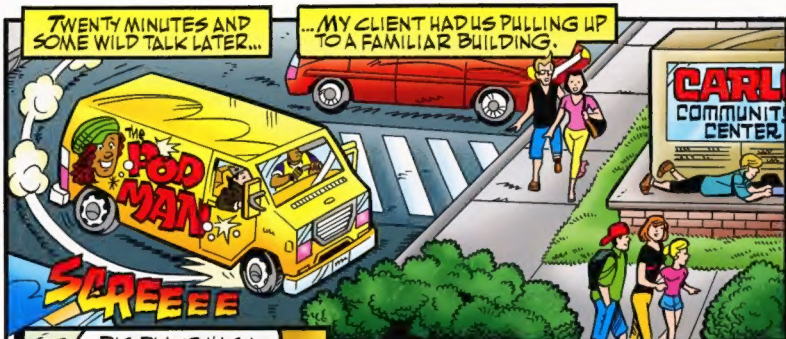
SOLVING
"THREE REAL
CRIMES..."

...AND...



TWENTY MINUTES AND
SOME WILD TALK LATER...

...MY CLIENT HAD US PULLING UP
TO A FAMILIAR BUILDING.



DIS PLACE HAS A
LOT OF GREAT
PROGRAMS GOING
ON.

I KNOW. A BUDDY
OF MINE TEACHES
A COMICS CLASS
HERE!

COOL
BEANS!

WELL, I
DO MY THING
HERE, TOO!

CARL
COMMUNITY
CENTER



I DO AN INTERNET
PODCAST SHOW CALLED
"CATCH DA BEAT!"

YOU PLAY DEMOS
OF UNKNOWN
LOCAL BANDS AND
SINGERS!

HOW'D
YOU
KNOW
DAT?

I, uh...
DABBLE
IN MUSIC
SOME-
TIMES!



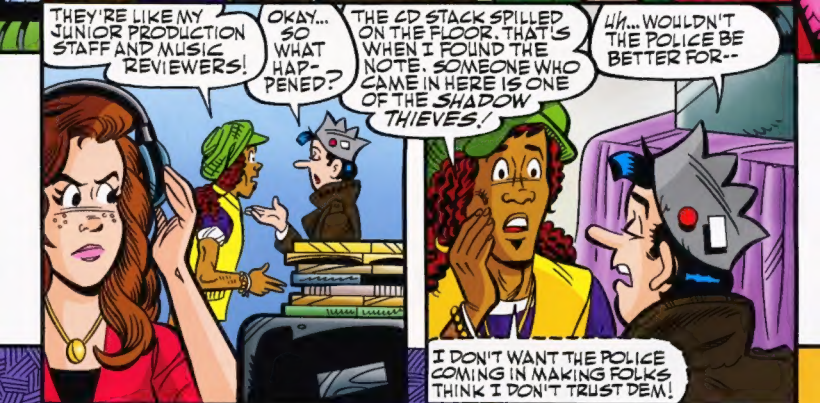




PUT ON YOUR HEADSETS
AND START CHECKING
OUT THE LATEST DEMOS!

WHO'S
HE?

UH, TELL YOU
LATER. NOW
GO ON.

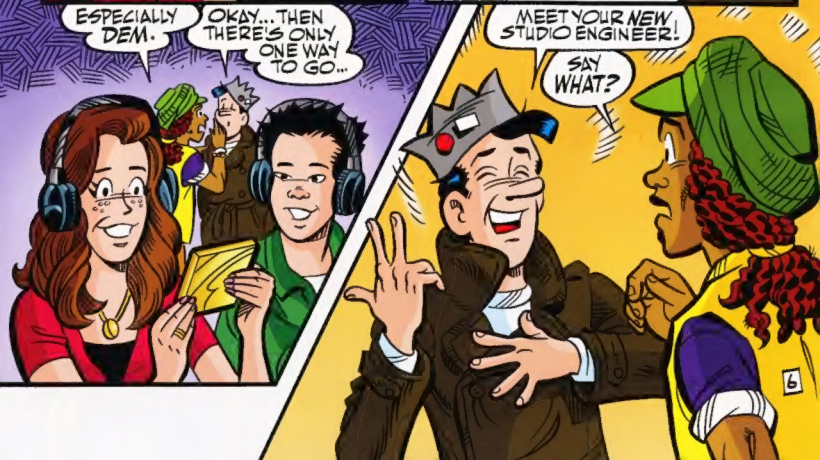


THEY'RE LIKE MY
JUNIOR PRODUCTION
STAFF AND MUSIC
REVIEWERS!

OKAY...
SO
WHAT
HAP-
PENED?

THE CD STACK SPILLED
ON THE FLOOR. THAT'S
WHEN I FOUND THE
NOTE. SOMEONE WHO
CAME IN HERE IS ONE
OF THE *SHADOW*
THIEVES!

UH... WOULDN'T
THE POLICE BE
BETTER FOR--



ESPECIALLY
DEM.

OKAY... THEN
THERE'S ONLY
ONE WAY
TO GO...

MEET YOUR NEW
STUDIO ENGINEER!

SAY
WHAT?



THERE'S A TRICK TO PULLING OFF A GOOD UNDERCOVER JOB, YOU HAVE TO...

...LOOK NATURAL, COOL...



...IN CONTROL AT ALL TIMES AND READY TO MOVE FAST AND SURE...



BUMP!

...BEING SURE NOT TO DRAW ATTENTION TO YOURSELF.



IT'S A TRICK THAT TAKES YEARS TO MASTER.

HIP HOP CLUB MIX

I SHOULD REALLY TAKE SOME TIME TO LEARN IT... ONE DAY...



BUT FOR NOW, I GOT IT RIGHT...

...SORT OF!

BUT AFTER 3 DAYS, I HADN'T COME ACROSS A SINGLE CLUE WHO DROPPED THE NOTE.

OR WHERE THE SHADOW THIEVES WOULD STRIKE NEXT.

HOT SPOT

TEEN CLUB



HE'S WITH ME.

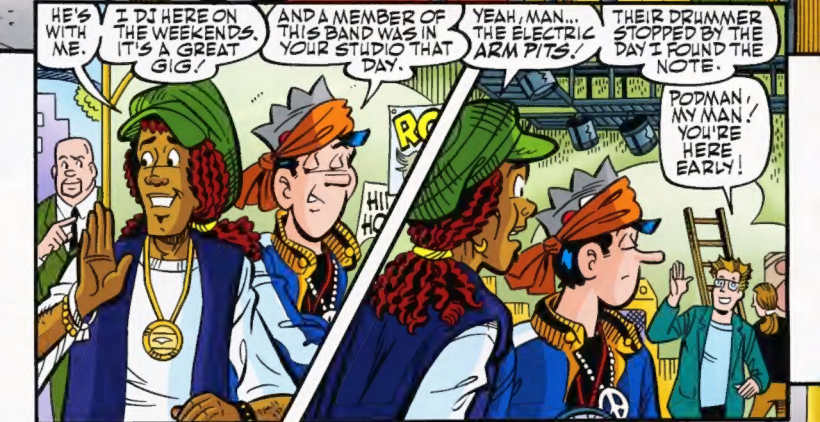
I DJ HERE ON THE WEEKENDS. IT'S A GREAT GIG!

AND A MEMBER OF THIS BAND WAS IN YOUR STUDIO THAT DAY.

YEAH, MAN... THE ELECTRIC ARM PITS!

THEIR DRUMMER STOPPED BY THE DAY I FOUND THE NOTE.

PODMAN, MY MAN! YOU'RE HERE EARLY!



SURE THING, EDDIE. GOT TO CHECK OUT SOME EQUIPMENT FOR TONIGHT'S SHOW.

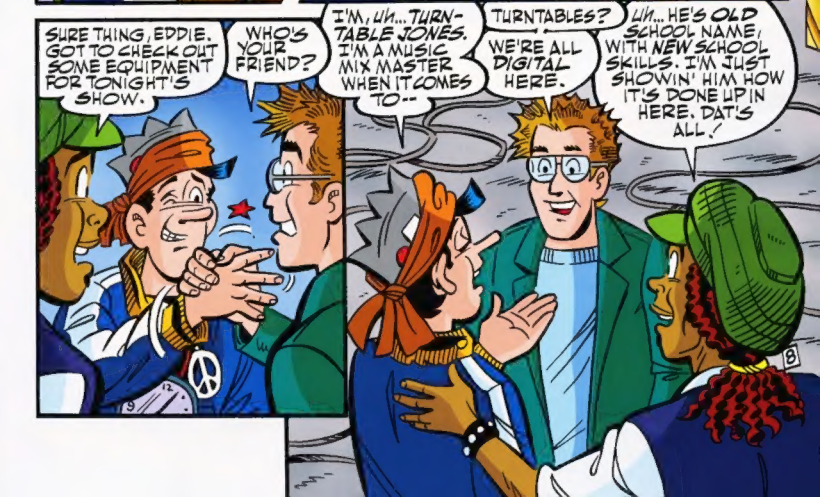
WHO'S YOUR FRIEND?

I'M, UH... TURN-TABLE JONES. I'M A MUSIC MIX MASTER WHEN IT COMES TO--

TURNTABLES?

WE'RE ALL DIGITAL HERE.

UH... HE'S OLD SCHOOL NAME, WITH NEW SCHOOL SKILLS. I'M JUST SHOWIN' HIM HOW IT'S DONE UP IN HERE. DAT'S ALL!



WELL, PODMAN IS THE ONE TO LEARN IT FROM. WE'RE DOING GREAT BUSINESS SINCE THE CLUB OPENED A FEW WEEKS AGO... AND HE'S ONE OF THE REASONS!

EDDIE OWNS THIS PLACE...

CO-OWNS, YOU MEAN.

GOT THAT RIGHT. ATLANTA AND I RUN IT TOGETHER!

SURE. HE'S ON THE DANCE FLOOR, PARTYING WITH THE CUSTOMERS EVERY NIGHT...

...WHILE I'M CRUNCHING NUMBERS AND LOOKING FOR PROFIT!

THAT'S TEAM-WORK, DOLL!

PLEASD TO--

BETTER TALK TO THE ARM PITS' DRUMMER, EDDIE. HE'S BEEN COMPLAINING ABOUT THE STAGE LEFT BASS SPEAKER FOR OVER AN HOUR. YOUR ENGINEER IS ALMOST AS FED UP AS I AM!

DON'T MIND HER...!

...SHE'S WOUND A LITTLE TIGHT IS ALL.

THE CLUB'S DOING FINE, AND--



JUGHEAD!

RONNIE!
WHAT'RE
YOU DOING
HERE?

PICKING UP MY FREE PASSES FOR
TONIGHT'S SHOW. I WON THEM
WHEN I WAS HERE
LAST WEEKEND!



BUT
WHY'RE
YOU--

I... I JUST GOT
THIS, uh... GIG
WITH PODMAN
HERE!

PODMAN? YOU
DON'T KNOW ANY-
THING ABOUT
PLANTS.

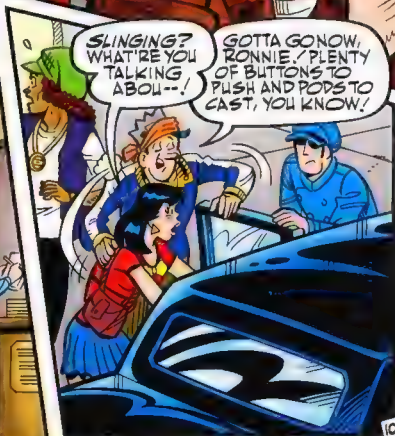
I HAVE MY OWN POD
SHOW, AND I'M THE
MUSIC MAN HERE.

HE JUST
HIRED
ME!



WHAT ABOUT
YOUR GIGS
WITH THE
ARCH--!

I NEED THE
MONEY... AND YOU
CAN'T EXPECT ME TO,
uh... KEEP SLINGING
BURGERS FOR
THE REST OF MY
LIFE.



SLINGING?
WHAT'RE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT--!

GOTTA GONOW,
RONNIE. PLENTY
OF BUTTONS TO
PUSH AND PODS TO
CAST, YOU KNOW!

DAT WAS CLOSE, MAN! SHE ALMOST BLEW YOUR COVER!

NOW WHAT? THE THIEVES MAY STRIKE AGAIN TONIGHT!

I STILL HAVE TO CHECK OUT THE OTHER SUSPECT, THAT CD DELIVERY GUY.

AND THE TWO KIDS.

I DON'T BELIEVE CHERYL AND REESE ARE INVOLVED.

BUT I'LL START WITH THE DELIVERY GUY.

DAT'S ON THE OTHER SIDE OF TOWN.

AND I'VE GOT SOME ERRANDS TO RUN BEFORE THE GIG!

THEN I'LL MEET YOU BACK AT THE STUDIO!

YOU DA MAN, MAN!

I HOPE NOT!

UH... YEAH.

BUT HOW WILL YOU GET OVER TO HIS SHOP?

THAT'S ALL RIGHT. I CAN ALWAYS BUM A RIDE FROM MY PAL, ARCHIE.

HOT SPOT
TEEN



YOU'RE LUCKY
I COULD BORROW
MY DAD'S CAR!

INCREDIBLY
LUCKY.

COMING ON, "LEAN AND MEAN"... YOU
KNOW YOU WORK BETTER WHEN
I'M AROUND. HOW ABOUT THAT
CASE AT THE FUN PARK, HUH?

IT WASN'T ALL
THAT MUCH
FUN.

GRUMBLE ALL
YOU WANT, SUGAR.
YOU KNOW YOU
NEED ME.

HERE WE ARE,
SO I'LL GO IN
WITH--

NO, YOU
WON'T,
ETHEL.

THIS GUY
MAYBE BE
TOUGH!

I MIGHT
HAVE TO
CORNER
HIM.

FREEZE HIM
WITH MY STEELY
EYES, GRILL
HIM LIKE A
T-BONE...

GO TOE TO
TOE, JAW TO
JAW, FIST
TO...

NOK!

JOE'S
DELIVERY
SERVICE

WHATCHA
WANT,
SONNY?

OR
NOT!

ALL THE WAY BACK TO THE STUDIO, ETHEL TRIED TO CONVINCE ME THAT THE OLD MAN COULD STILL BE A SUSPECT...

SHE SAID THIS WHEN SHE WASN'T LAUGHING AT ME.

MAYBE HE TELLS THEM BEDTIME STORIES AFTER THEY COME BACK FROM A ROBBERY.

DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT IT, BUB!

VERY FUNNY.

MAYBE HE ONLY CASES THE PLACES THEY'RE GOING TO ROB.

NOT LIKELY. ONLY HOMES WERE ROBBED. HE ONLY DELIVERS TO BUSINESSES!

SO... WHAT NOW?

THE LAST TWO SUSPECTS... THE KIDS--

YOU DON'T THINK THEY'RE THE THIEVES?!

YOU'RE HALF RIGHT, SISTER... I DON'T SEEM TO BE THINKING AT ALL!

I DIDN'T REALLY BELIEVE THE KIDS WERE THE SHADOW THIEVES...

NO PROOF, JUST A FEELING IN MY GUT...



OF COURSE IT COULD'VE BEEN THE TUNA AND BANANA SANDWICH I'D HAD FOR LUNCH...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

THAT'S MY LINE.

FUNNY...NOT.

I'M JUST CLEANING UP STUFF. PODMAN DOESN'T HAVE OFFICE SKILLS. WHAT ABOUT YOU?

I'M THE ASSISTANT...SO I ASSIST!

WHY? PODMAN FIGURES REESE AND I AREN'T ENOUGH?

HE BROUGHT YOU IN TO TAKE OUR PLACE?

WHAT?

NO!

I'M NOT HERE TO TAKE YOUR JOBS!

WE'RE JUST AS GOOD AS YOU. BETTER EVEN!

GOOD! BECAUSE PODMAN DOESN'T WANT TO LOSE YOU!

HE DOESN'T? THEN WHY ARE YOU HERE?

LOOK... SOMEONE IS TRYING TO CAUSE TROUBLE FOR HIM... I'M JUST TRYING TO FIND OUT WHO!

THEN LET ME HELP! I KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT EVERYTHING AND EVERYBODY!



I BET YOU DO!

OKAY... A FEW DAYS AGO, PODMAN FOUND A NOTE ON THE FLOOR OVER THERE. IT FELL OUT OF A PILE OF BLANK CDS THAT WERE DELIVERED THAT DAY. MAYBE YOU SAW SOMEONE--

IT WASN'T A DELIVERY PILE!

WHAT?!

REESE AND I HAVE TO ORGANIZE THINGS AROUND HERE, 'CAUSE PODMAN IS WILD ON MIE... AND WITH EVERYTHING ELSE!

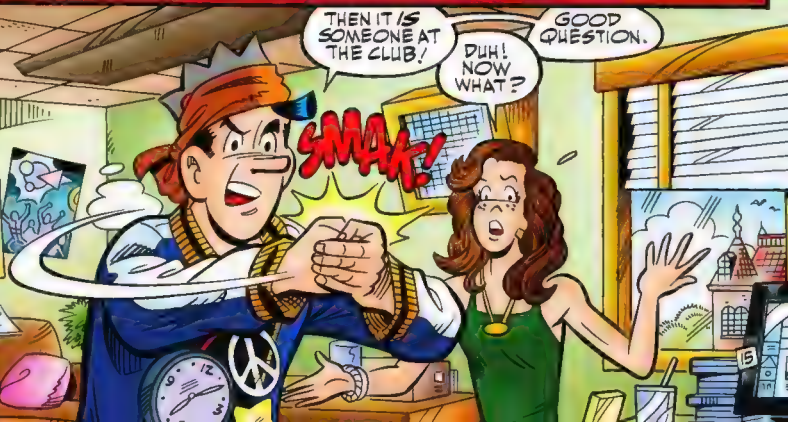
THE PILE THAT FELL WAS STUFF FROM THE ARM PIT!

THAT SOUNDS GROSS!

I MEAN THEY WERE CDS PODMAN USED AT THE TEEN CLUB!

DEMOS?

YEAH, AND SOME OF HIS OWN MUSIC MIXES. REESE AND I HAD ALREADY PUT AWAY THE OTHER STUFF!



THEN IT IS SOMEONE AT THE CLUB!

DUH! NOW WHAT?

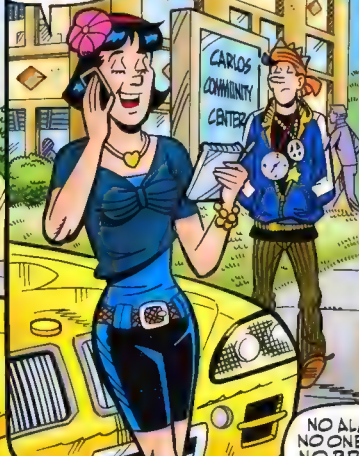
GOOD QUESTION.

SMACK!

WHAT WAS NEXT WAS SIMPLE--
CAPTURE THE BAD GUY...

JUST AS SOON AS I
FIGURED OUT WHO
HE WAS!

THANKS,
BETTY. WE
OWE YOU!



WHICH MEANS THEY
CAN REALLY PICK
LOCKS!

OR THEY
HAD KEYS!

BUT
HOW?

NO ALARMS.
NO ONE HOME.
NO BROKEN
LOCKS.



WHAT ARE
YOU STILL--

HELPING YOU SAVE THE
DAY. BETTY IS ON THE
SCHOOL PAPER, SO I
CALLED HER AND GOT
THAT INFO ON THE
SHADOW THIEVES'
VICTIMS.



THEY HIT TEN
TIMES IN THREE
WEEKS--MOSTLY
ON WEEKENDS...
AND MOSTLY THE
HOMES OF--

THE RICH AND
FAMOUS?

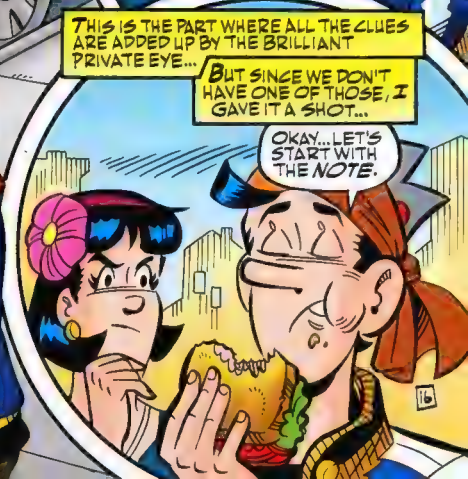
NOPE. THE
WELL AND
WELL OFF!



THIS IS THE PART WHERE ALL THE CLUES
ARE ADDED UP BY THE BRILLIANT
PRIVATE EYE...

BUT SINCE WE DON'T
HAVE ONE OF THOSE, I
GAVE IT A SHOT...

OKAY...LET'S
START WITH
THE NOTE.





IT LAID OUT ONE OF THEIR JOBS, IN CODE. WHICH MEANS THE THIEVES GET THEIR INSTRUCTIONS FROM SOMEONE ELSE.

GOOD. GOOD. BUT WHO?

TONIGHT...
IIZZ YOUR PLACE
ICE SLIPPERY
COOL...
NEW DROP
FRIDAY 2130 TICK
BOTTOM
COLUMN...

POSSIBLY SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T WANT TO BE SEEN OR KNOWN.

OKAY. OKAY. HE DOESN'T WANT TO BE SEEN OR KNOWN, BUT HE TELLS THEM WHAT AND WHERE.

BUT HOW DO THEY KNOW WHEN? NO ONE'S EVER HOME WHEN THEY HIT.

YEAH, HOW DOES HE GET THAT INFORMATION?

THE NOTE GAVE THE ADDRESS, AND THEN SAID--

..!ICE SLIPPERY COOL...
NEW DROP FRIDAY 2130
TICK BOTTOM COLUMN..."

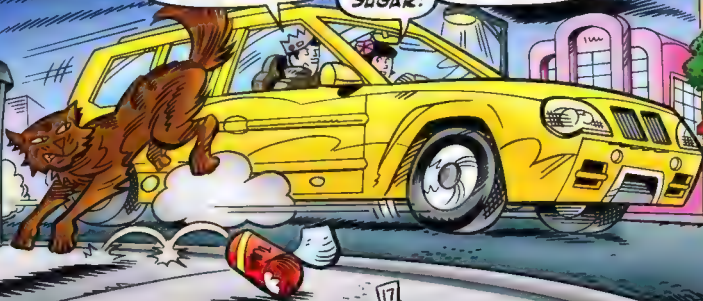
ICE MEANS DIAMONDS AND JEWELS, RIGHT?

YEAH. TODAY IS FRIDAY... AND 2130 TICK COULD MEAN...

NINE-THIRTY! CAN YOU FIND OUT WHAT THE VICTIMS WERE DOING THE NIGHT OF THE ROBBERIES?

SURE THING, SUGAR!

GREAT! DO THAT RIGHT AFTER YOU GET ME TO THE CLUB... FAST!





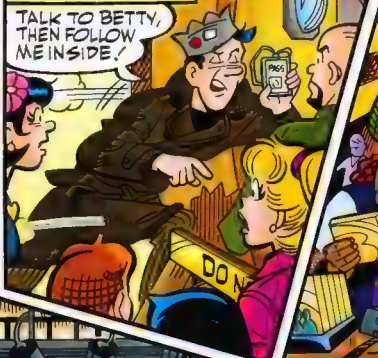
IT WAS ALL GUESS WORK,
SO MAYBE I WAS WRONG...

THEN AGAIN, EVEN A
BROKEN WATCH IS
RIGHT TWICE A DAY...

**HOT
SPOT**

AND SOMEHOW, THIS HAS
ALL STARTED TO MAKE
SENSE... SORT OF.

TALK TO BETTY,
THEN FOLLOW
ME INSIDE!



WHERE YOU
BEEN, MAN?!

EARNING MY
BURGERS AND
FRIES, MAN!



AGAIN
WITH THE
CHASING!
MAYBE I
SHOULD
CHARGE BY
THE MILE!



WHENEVER I WATCHED
DETECTIVE MOVIES, I
ALWAYS WONDERED ABOUT
CERTAIN THINGS...

LIKE WHY DID THE DETECTIVES HAVE TO
LOSE HALF THEIR CLIENTS BEFORE THEY
FIGURED OUT WHO
DID IT?

OR LIKE WHEN THE LIGHTS WENT
OUT IN A SPOOKY OLD HOUSE,
WHY DIDN'T EVERYONE GET OUT
OF THERE FAST?

AND OF COURSE THE BIGGEST QUESTION
WAS ALWAYS... CAN THE HERO HEAR YOU
SCREAMING "THE VILLAIN IS BEHIND
YOU"...

...BEFORE
IT'S TOO
LATE?

BUMP!

GUESS
NOT!

TWO THINGS FLASHED
BEFORE MY EYES...

THE ROPE THAT KEPT ME FROM
BECOMING GUACAMOLE ON
THE STAGE FLOOR...

...AND THE SOLUTION
TO THE CASE.

SOMEONE AT
THE CLUB HAD
TO GATHER
INFO FOR THE
THIEVES!

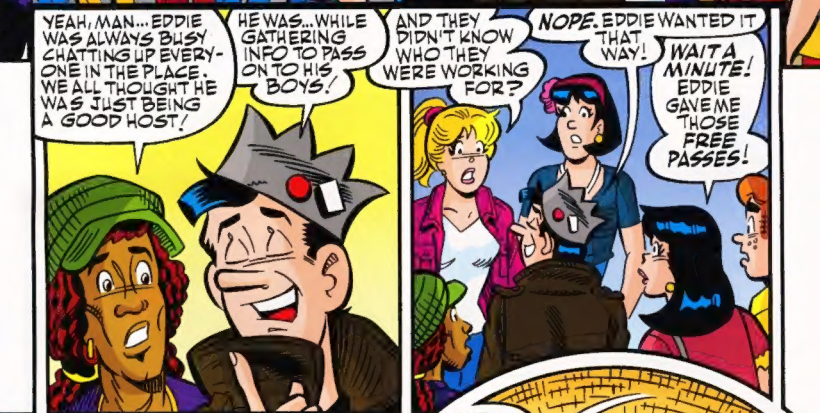
SOMEONE
WHO GOT
THEM HAPPY,
JUMPING,
LAUGHING,
AND...

...TALKING. TALKING
ABOUT THEIR DAY...
THEIR FRIENDS...
THEIR HOMES...

...AND WHEN NO
ONE WOULD
BE THERE.

EDDIE! WHAT
IS GOING
ON?!

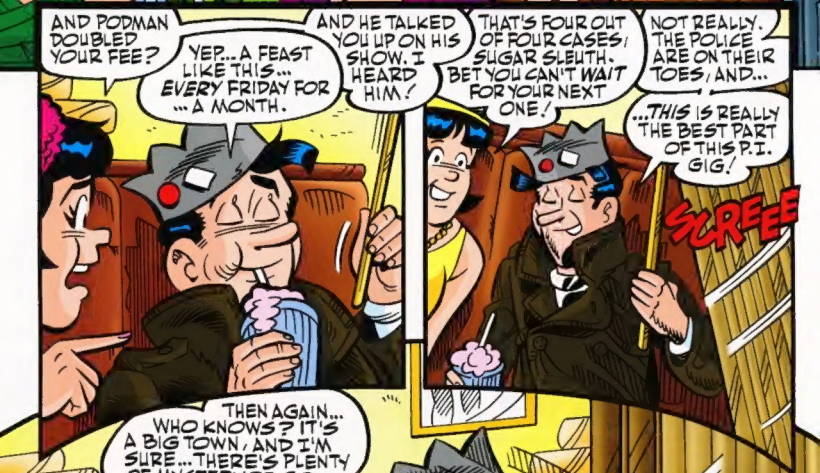
POPP!





SO ATLANTA'S GOING TO KEEP THE CLUB OPEN?

YEP... AND SHE'S GOT...
...A NEW PARTNER...
...ALL LINED UP.



AND PODMAN DOUBLED YOUR FEE?

YEP... A FEAST LIKE THIS... EVERY FRIDAY FOR ...A MONTH.

AND HE TALKED YOU UP ON HIS SHOW. I HEARD HIM!

THAT'S FOUR OUT OF FOUR CASES! SUGAR SLEUTH. BET YOU CAN'T WAIT FOR YOUR NEXT ONE!

NOT REALLY. THE POLICE ARE ON THEIR TOES, AND...

...THIS IS REALLY THE BEST PART OF THIS P.I. GIG!

SCREE



THEN AGAIN... WHO KNOWS? IT'S A BIG TOWN, AND I'M SURE... THERE'S PLENTY OF MYSTERY TO GO AROUND... SWEETHEART.

THE END

NEXT ISSUE...



ON SALE THE WEEK OF

MARCH 29TH 2011



**JUGHEAD
GETS
GRILLED!**
IN INFORMATION PLEASE!

COMING SOON TO ARCHIE DIGITAL...

**JUGHEAD JONES:
SEMI-PRIVATE EYE**

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